Vol. 2 No. 8
DECEMBER 10, 1946

TREASURE CHEST OF FUN & FACTS

American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives, Catholic University of America

Supermouse
Startling Comics
Jetta
Mystery Comics
Fantastic Tales
Cosmo Cat
Startling Comics
Strange Mysteries
Daring Adventures
Startling Comics
Mystery Tales
Exciting Comics
Famous Funnies
Strange Worlds
Startling Comics
Jetta
Mystery Tales
Startling Comics
Barnyard Comics
Exciting Comics
Eerie
Exciting Comics
Casper Cat
Daring Adventures
WEBCOMIC UNIVERSE.COM

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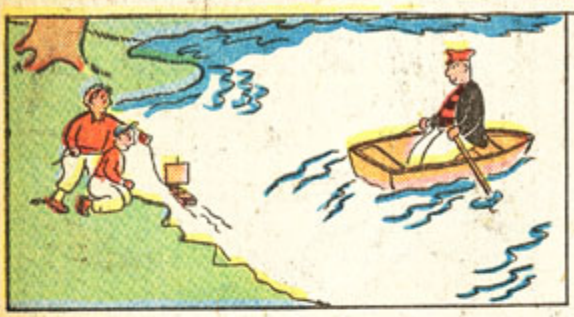

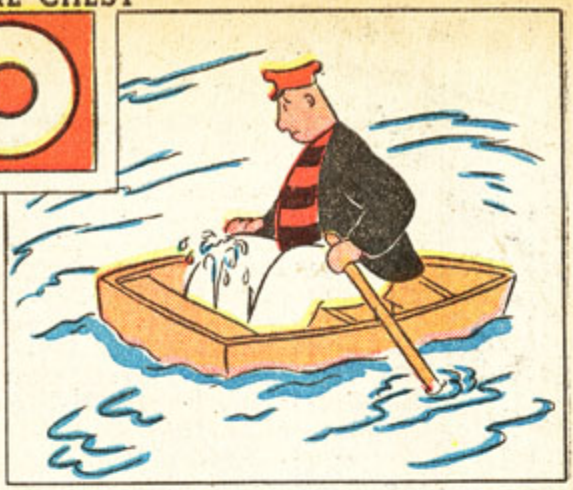

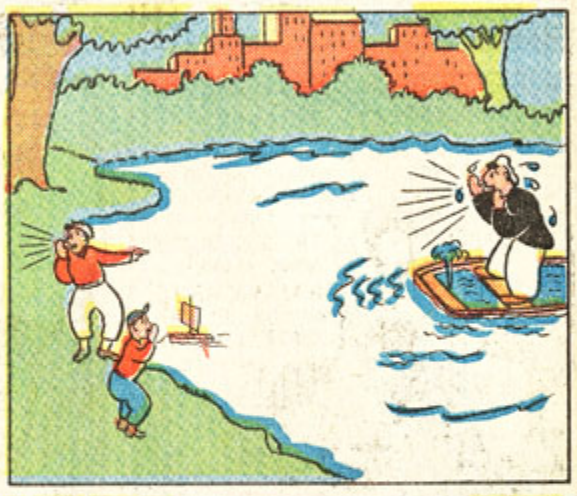

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Sandy in Spangles

By DIXIE WILLSON

ALEXANDRA MAGILL, WHOSE NICKNAME IS SANDY, IS THE HEROINE OF THIS CIRCUS STORY. SHE HAILS FROM THE MIDWEST, WHERE HER FATHER HAS A FLOURISHING GROCERY. HER LOVABLE, GRAY-EYED MOTHER MAKES APPLE PIES THAT TAKE FIRST PRIZE EVERY YEAR AT THE COUNTY FAIR. SANDY, HERSELF, WON TOP HONORS IN HER FOUR YEARS OF HIGH SCHOOL.... AND SHE IS FOND OF ANDY, HER SOMETIMES PESKY, 15-YEAR-OLD BROTHER.

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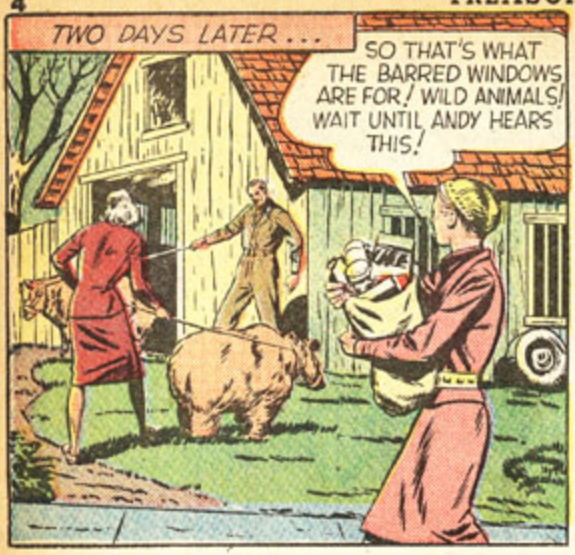

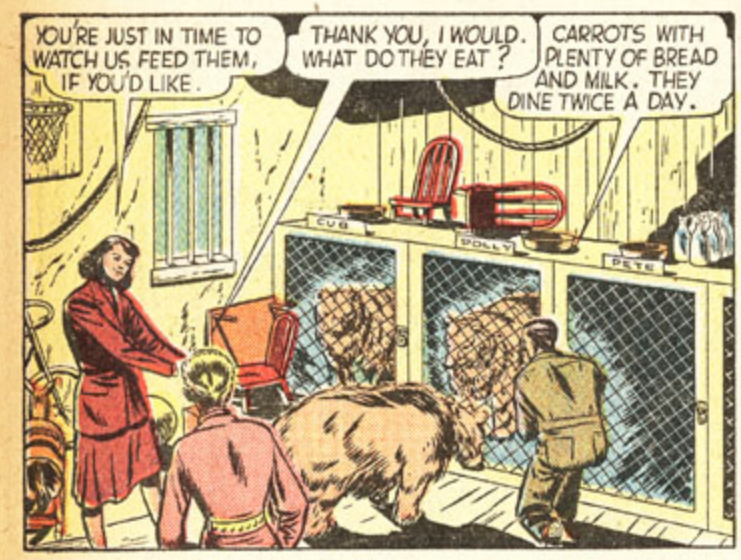

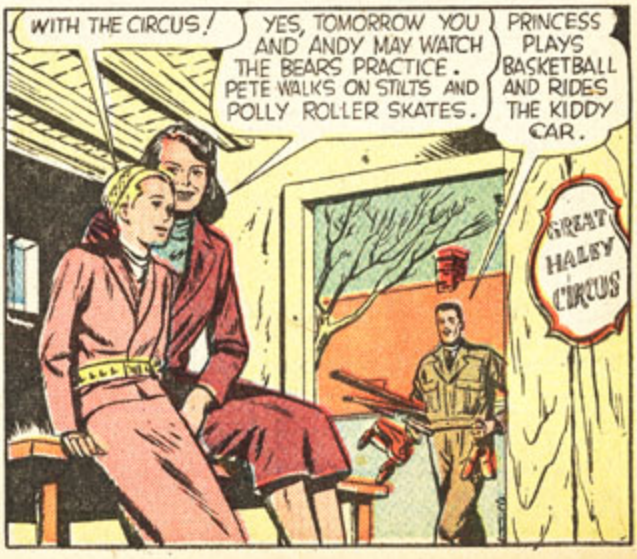

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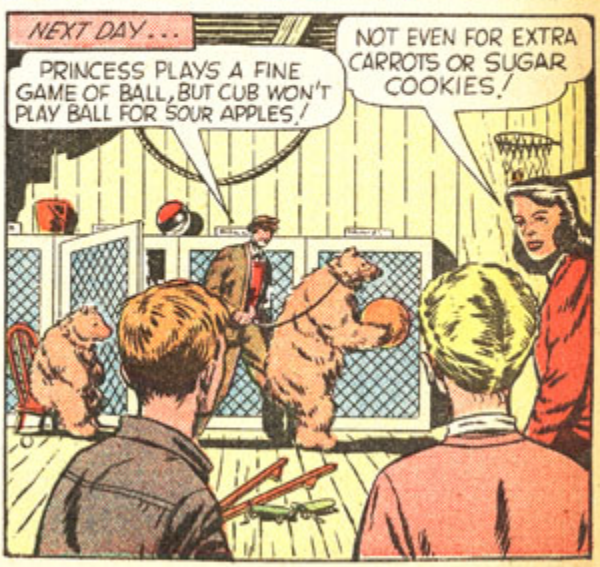

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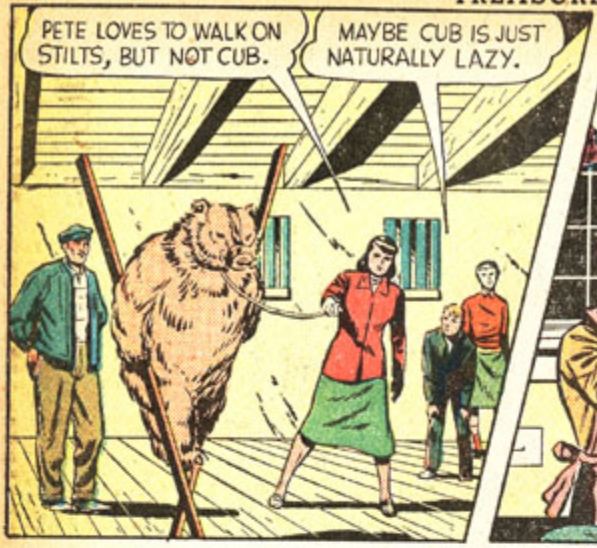

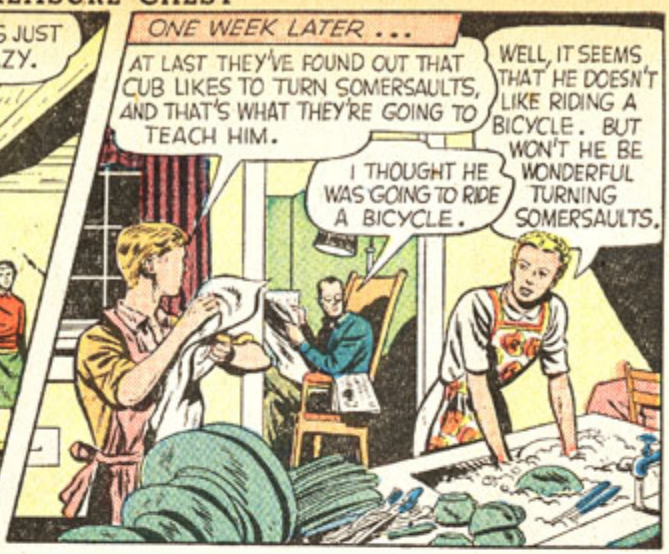

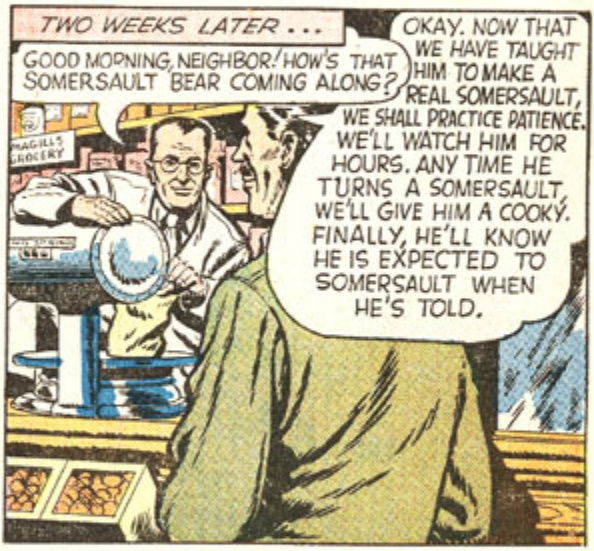

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TO BE CONTINUED

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Puzzle & Game Page

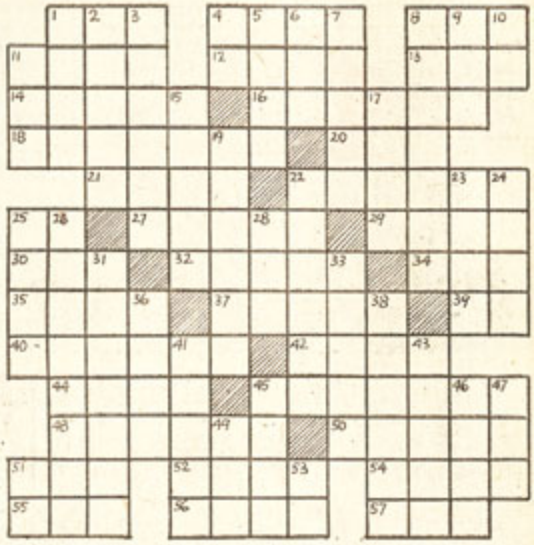
By Jules Leopold

ACROSS

1. Consumed
4. "So be it."
8. Fasten
11. Space
12. Biblical name meaning "bitter" (Ruth I, 20)
13. There are three Divine Persons in ——God.
14. Wash lightly
16. Biblical strong Man
18. Rags
20. Organ of hearing
21. In this place
22. Season which prepares us for Christmas
25. Thus
27. Vexes (Colloquial)
29. He sold his birthright. (Gen. XXV, 25)
30. A mortal sin is a grievous offense against the —— of God.
32. How many beatitudes are there?
34. A metal
35. On top of
37. Beverage
39. Note of the musical scale
40. Pulsates
42. Prophetess who, with Simeon, was present at the Purification
44. Mineral spring
45. Wild donkeys of central Asia
48. Restrains
50. Lawful
51. Native Hawaiian food
52. The Fifth Commandment of God is: Thou shalt not——."
54. Easter flower
55. Spinning toy
56. An uppish person
57. Point of the compass

DOWN

1. Operatic melody
2. Which Commandment says: Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's goods.
3. Feast Day commemorating the Resurrection
4. Form of "to be"
5. The sacrifice of the New Law in which Christ offers Himself to God under the appearance of bread and wine
6. Epoch
7. Nominated
8. Most needy
9. Hotel
10. Point of the compass
11. Skill in doing; knack
15. Weird
17. To rescue
19. Objects used as memorials of departed saints
22. Receptacle for waste, burned coal (2 words)
23. Pointed metal for fastening
24. Large fish used as food
25. Narrow bar of wood
26. The calling on God to witness the truth of what we say
28. Self
31. The First Commandment commands us to offer to God alone the supreme—— due Him.
33. Pertaining to tone
36. The Sovereign Pontiff
38. Created spirits, without bodies, having understanding and free will
41. Supports; upholds
43. Shield or protection
45. Capital of Norway
46. Jesuit missionary in Canada (1654--1724)
47. Crafty
48. Sound uttered by a pigeon
49. Relatives
51. Pint (abbr.)
53. Pound (abbr.)



DOLLAR BILL STUNT

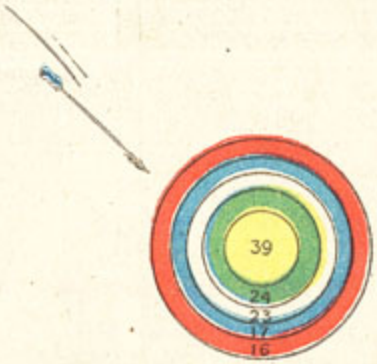
A dollar bill and an empty soda bottle, that's all this trick requires. The bill is laid flat on the table. The bottle is placed upside down, on the center of the bill.

The trick—and we challenge YOU to try it—is to remove the dollar bill without touching the bottle with your hand, or tipping the bottle over.

DARTS

Charlie Ramsden was proud of the results of his first try at darts. Every dart had landed on the target, and Charlie had made a total score of exactly 100.

Look at the target. Can you figure out how many darts Charlie threw and what numbers he hit to achieve his total of 100?



ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE PUZZLES WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TREASURE CHEST

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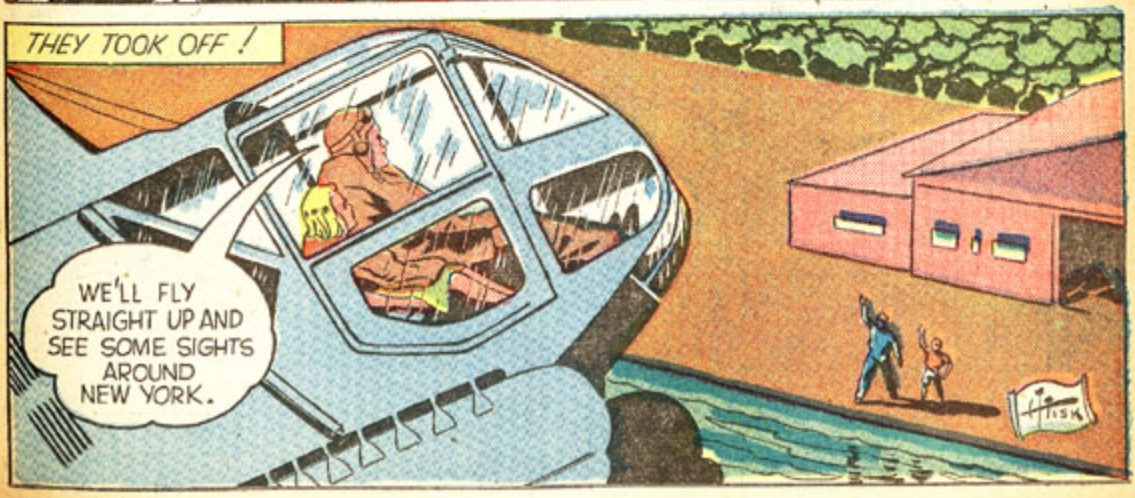
TOM CARVER
HELICOPTER PILOT
SHIP IN DISTRESS

BY GEO. FOLEY JR.



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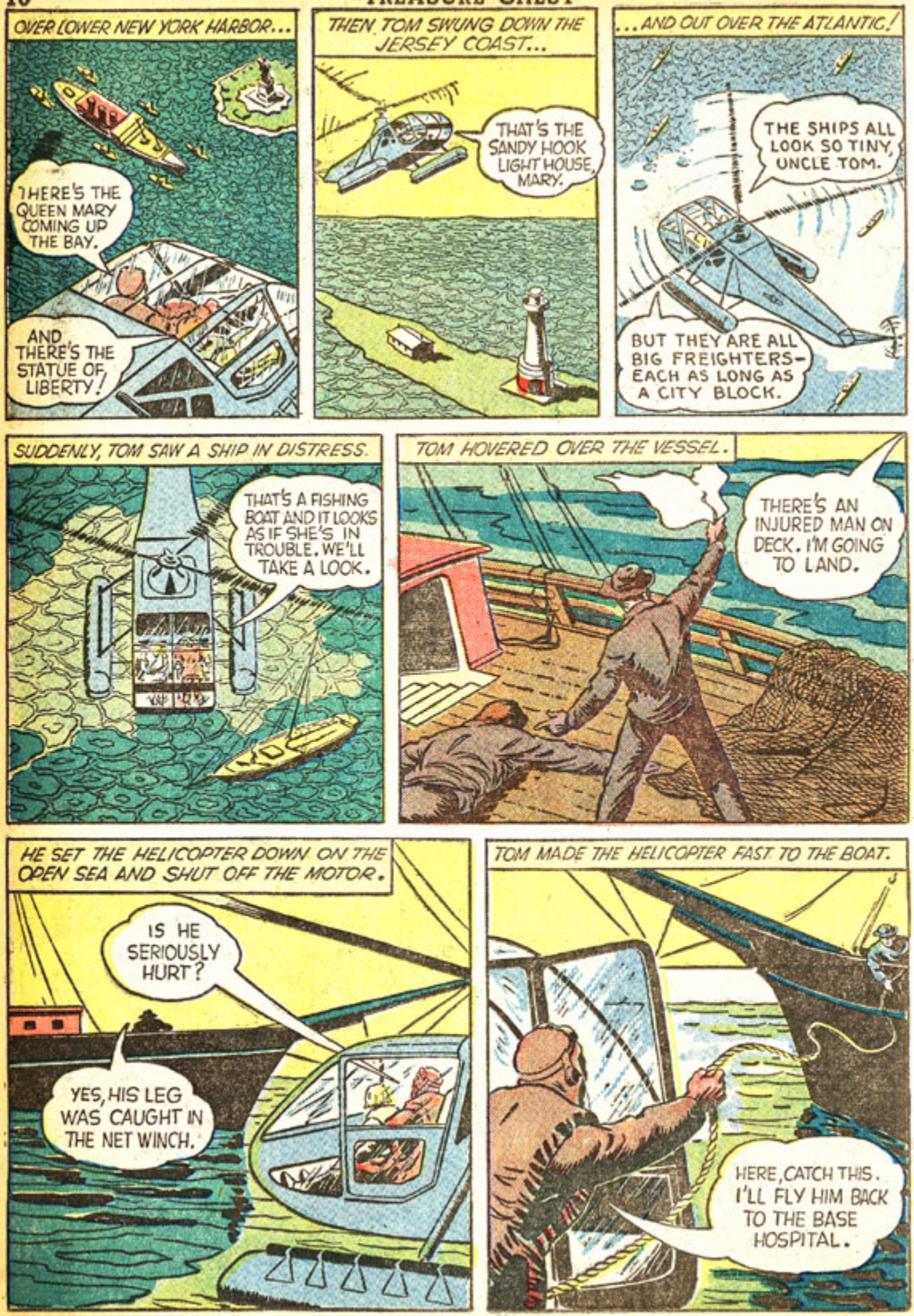

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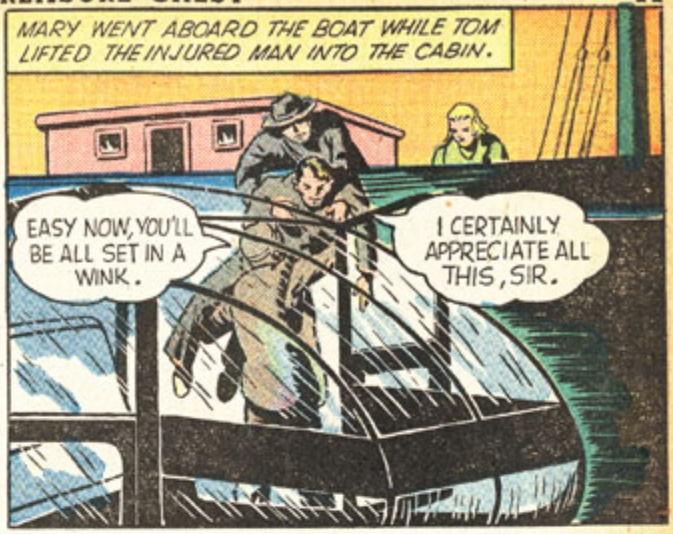

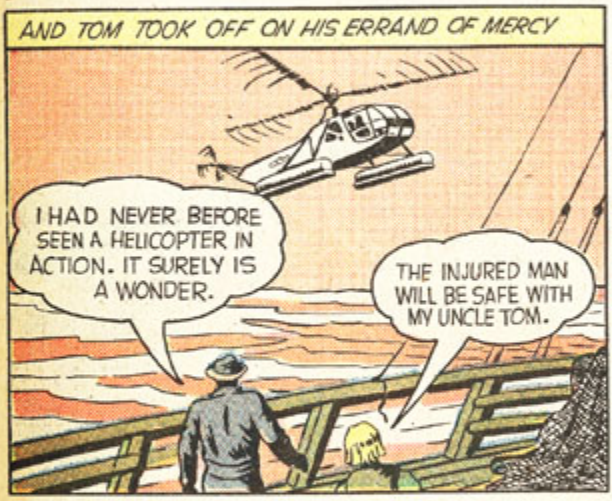

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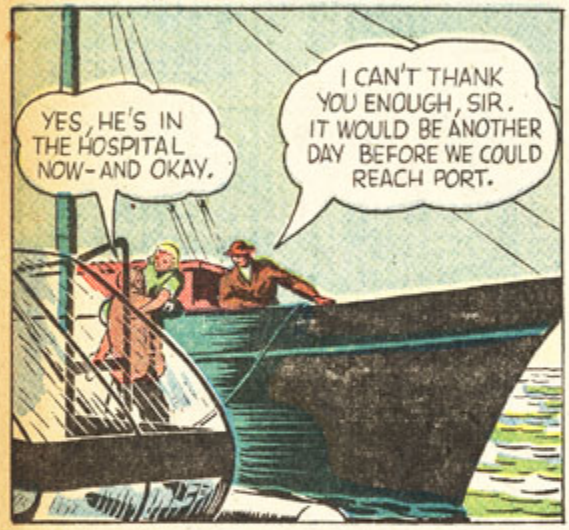

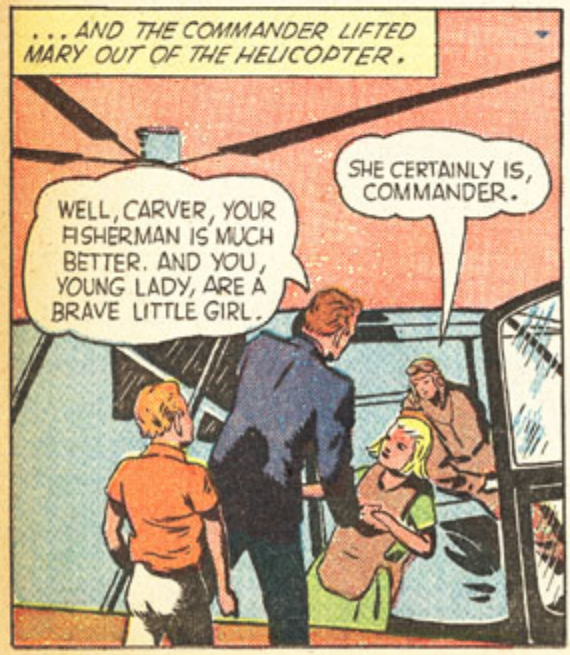

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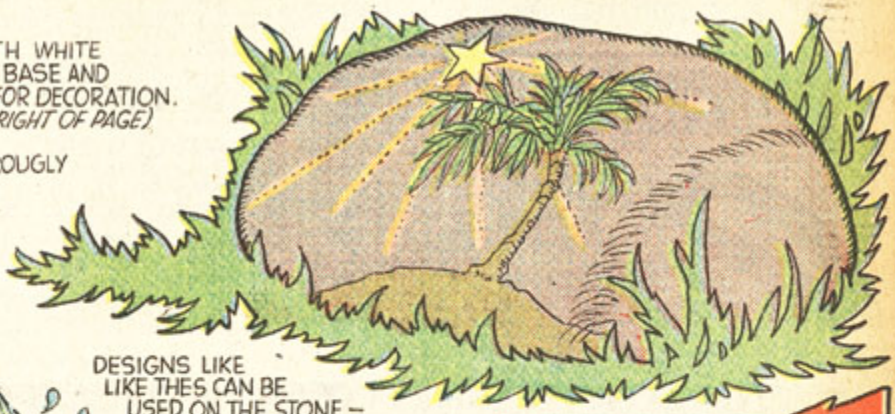
A PAPER WEIGHT FOR DAD

HUNT FOR A SMOOTH WHITE STONE WITH A FLAT BASE AND A SMOOTH SURFACE FOR DECORATION. *(SEE STONE AT BOTTOM RIGHT OF PAGE)*

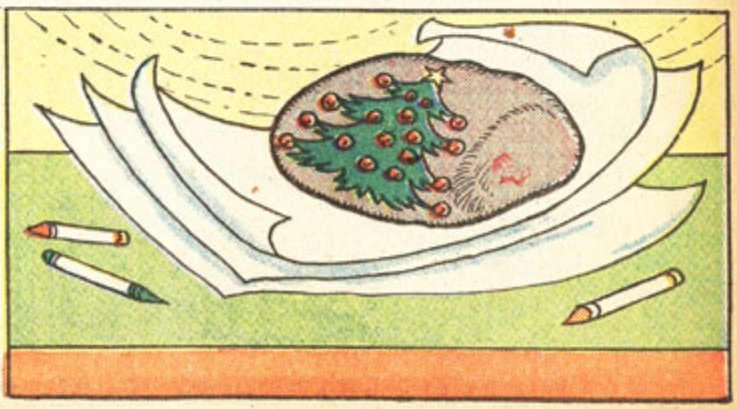
WASH THE STONE THOROUGLY AND WIPE IT DRY



DESIGNS LIKE LIKE THES CAN BE USED ON THE STONE — OR YOU CAN MAKE UP YOUR OWN.

COLOR WITH WATER COLORS OR WITH CRAYON. WHEN DRY, THE DESIGN CAN BE OUTLINED WITH BLACK INK.

LET DRY OVER NIGHT. THEN, TO PRESERVE THE DESIGN, SHELLAC ALL BUT THE BASE OF THE STONE. BE SURE TO LET SHELLAC DRY THOROUGHLY.



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A GIFT FOR MOTHER

ASK YOUR MOTHER FOR SMALL ODDS AND ENDS OF COLORED COTTON MATERIAL, BUT DON'T TELL HER WHY. SURPRISE! HERE IS A FINISHED POT HOLDER OR HOT MAT WHICH YOU CAN MAKE BY FOLLOWING DIRECTIONS.

1. CUT TWO SQUARES OF BRIGHT BLUE MATERIAL, FOR THE FRONT AND BACK.
2. FOR THE STAR, THE PINE TREE, AND THE SNOW, FIRM COTTON WHICH WILL NOT RAVEL IS BEST.
3. BASTE THE SNOW IN PLACE FIRST.
4. PUT THE TREES ON NEXT, LAPPING THEM SLIGHTLY OVER THE SNOW. BASTE ON THE STAR.
5. THEN SEW THEM ALL DOWN SMOOTHLY, WITH SMALL, CLOSE STITCHES, IN COARSE EMBROIDERY COTTON, DEEP YELLOW FOR THE STAR, GREEN FOR THE TREES.
6. WORK THE WORD "MOTHER" IN RED, IN CROSS-STITCH.
7. MAKE THE RAYS OF THE STAR IN RUNNING STITCHES IN YELLOW.
8. PAD THE POT HOLDER WITH SEVERAL LAYERS OF SOFT, THICK CLOTH. BASTE BACK AND FRONT TOGETHER.
9. BIND WITH BLUE TAPE SEWED OVER AND OVER WITH RED. LEAVE A LOOP OF TAPE TO HANG UP THE POT HOLDER.

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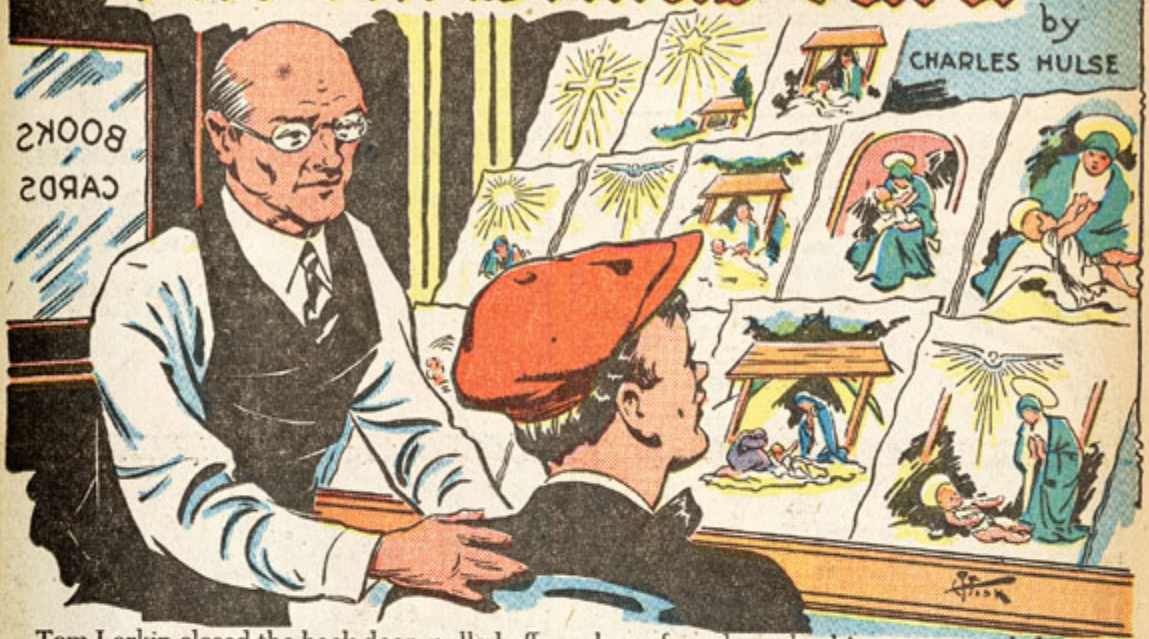
The Christmas Card

by CHARLES HULSE



Tom Larkin closed the back door, pulled off his cap, threw his books onto the shelf and dashed into the dining room. Coming home today, he was happier than usual. It was the last day of school before the Christmas vacation, and the holiday, itself, was only a few days off.

"Tom, is that you?" came the voice of his Mother from the parlor.

"Yes, Mother," answered Tom. "No more school until next year."

"Well, don't take off your coat," replied Mrs. Larkin as Tom came into the room and kissed her. "I want you to take these Christmas cards you bought yesterday back to Mr. Basset. Did you look at them?"

"No, Mom. They were in a nice box, and I supposed they were all right," Tom explained, "But I didn't actually open them. Is there something wrong?"

"Well, maybe not for some people. But as much as I like animals, I don't see why we should send out Christmas cards with a dog's picture on them. Or horses, or scenes of boats, either, for that matter," said Mrs. Larkin feelingly. "I want you to take them back and get some real Christmas cards."

Tom rebuttoned his coat and, placing the box of cards under his arm, started down to Mr. Basset's stationery store. He was not too happy about this, for he had hoped to work on his model B-36 before supper. He had only to fix up the wings and put the wheels and props in place, and it would be all set. He had been thinking about his plane all afternoon, and he wanted it to be perfect for the Model Plane Club meeting at Fred Scofield's house tomorrow.

And so he was not too pleasant in appearance when he walked into Mr. Basset's store.

"Hello, Master Larkin," beamed Mr. Basset, from behind the counter. "My, but you don't look like a boy who has just started on Christmas vacation."

"Oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Basset. I was thinking about something else," answered Tom with a weak smile. "Mother wants to change these cards."

"Why, what's the matter with them?" asked the bespectacled storekeeper, taking them from Tom and opening the box. "They are the finest we have in stock. They are double embossed folders, in four colors," explained Mr. Basset.

"Oh, it isn't that" answered Tom. "It's not that they aren't nice enough cards, it's just that

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CHRISTMAS CARDS

A. THE FINEST WAY TO MAKE THESE CHRISTMAS CARDS IS TO TRACE THEM ON FINER QUALITY PAPER. WITH SOFT LEAD PENCIL, BLACKEN ONE SIDE OF A SHEET OF THIN PAPER. LAY THIS, BLACKENED SIDE DOWN, ON YOUR PAPER. ON TOP OF THIS, PLACE THE PICTURE TO BE COPIED, FACE UP.

B. HOLD THE THREE SHEETS FIRMLY TOGETHER. THEN, WITH A SHARPENED STICK OR KNITTING NEEDLE, CAREFULLY TRACE THE PICTURE. NOW YOU HAVE THE PICTURE, IN LIGHT OUTLINE, ON THE PAPER. WITH A LEAD PENCIL, GO LIGHTLY OVER THE OUTLINE. YOU ARE NOW READY TO APPLY COLOR—WITH COLORED PENCILS OR WATER COLORS.

they aren't Christmas cards, Mother said."

"Not Christmas cards?" asked the storekeeper, with a frown. "I've sold a couple thousand of them as Christmas cards and you're the first one who ever said that about them."

"Well, Mother doesn't think that pictures of dogs or horses are exactly the right kind of Christmas card. And you'll have to agree that the box has mostly animal pictures—and one or two boat scenes in it."

The storekeeper looked at Tom steadily for a minute, then shook his head slowly.

"I don't wish to be stubborn, Tom, and of course I'll give your Mother anything she wants. I send and receive many cards, myself, every year, as well as sell them here in the store. You can take my word that the dog scenes are always in demand—dogs, horses and boats."

Tom was a little impatient now. He did not feel like arguing, but he could see that Mr. Basset just did not get the point.

"Besides, look at all this holly and Christmas wreath on the inside of the folder. Now what is more Christmas-like than that?" continued Mr. Basset.

"Well, Mr. Basset, it all depends on what you mean by Christmas. The original meaning of Christmas was 'Christ's Mass.' Actually it's the Birthday of Our Lord. Although I know you aren't a Catholic, I believe that, if you think about it, you will have to agree that the real meaning of Christmas is a religious one."

"Well, I always thought that Christmas meant Santa Claus and Christmas trees and big Christmas dinners. And, of course, there are the presents and the sleigh bells." Mr. Basset's eyes were shining now. "They are the things that make Christmas fun. And, as a matter of fact, I think they are rather significant, too."

"I'm not saying those aren't wonderful," answered Tom. "We have as fine a Christmas in our house as anyone in town. And we have

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TO MAKE AND MOUNT

C. FOR SMALLER FOLK, WHO MAY FIND TRACING TOO DIFFICULT, THE PICTURES MAY BE USED AS THEY ARE. CUT THE CARDS APART, FOLLOWING THE OUTLINE CAREFULLY. PASTE THEM DOWN SMOOTHLY ON STIFF PAPER, AND DRY UNDER WEIGHT.

D. PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO CUT AWAY THE HALO OF OUR BLESSED MOTHER AND OF THE CHILD, AND PASTE GOLD PAPER BACK OF THE OPENINGS.

E. THESE CARDS, IF YOU WANT THEM LARGER AND LOVELIER, MAY BE MOUNTED ON CONSTRUCTION PAPER. CHOOSE COLORS THAT BEST BRING OUT THE COLORS IN THE PICTURES.

as beautiful a tree as anyone in the neighborhood." Tom was speaking steadily now, and not losing his head. For he had something to say which he felt deeply, and there was no sense holding it back when he *knew* that he was right. Besides, a principle was involved.

"Mr. Basset," Tom continued, "Have you ever been to Church on Christmas Eve? I mean Midnight Mass, with the whole sanctuary flooded with light, and the choir singing the Christmas Mass. Generally it's snowing outside, but inside the Church, in the little Crib, you can see the small figure of the Child Jesus, lying in the Manger. And you can almost feel the Angels singing to Him." Tom stopped a minute, trying his best to say the right words.

"For many weeks before Christmas, we prepare for the coming of the Infant Babe. I don't eat candy all during Advent just to welcome Him when He comes. Then, when Christmas arrives, I really can celebrate better when I receive Him in Holy Communion."

Tom paused again.

"Sure, we have gifts and Santa Claus and everything. And that's what makes it fun," Tom continued. "But everyone in our house receives Holy Communion on Christmas Morning—and that's what makes it Christmas. That's why Mother wants to send religious Christmas cards. Because if you leave Our Lord out of Christmas, the holidays don't really mean much more than any other day with no school or work." Tom paused again. He had almost forgotten Mr. Basset was there.

"I'm sorry if I said anything to offend you, Mr. Basset," Tom apologized, "but that's how I feel."

"You didn't say anything to offend me at all, my boy," answered Mr. Basset. He had been listening attentively to all that Tom had said, and he seemed deeply moved. He picked up the cards that Tom had returned and put them into the box. Then he started into the back of the store where the Christmas cards were

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stocked.

"I have some cards that your Mother will like." Tom moved back and looked at them. They were lovely Nativity scenes.

"These are fine, Mr. Basset," said Tom cheerfully, "I know they're just what Mom wants. Merry Christmas, Mr. Basset, if I don't see you before then."

"And a Merry Christmas to you, Tom," answered the old storekeeper as Tom left.

Tom did not think anything further of the conversation. In fact, he did not think of Mr. Basset again until Christmas. It was while he was serving Midnight Mass. This year was his big year. He would be graduated in June, and this was his last Christmas as an altar boy. He was lost in the glory of the Mass, when suddenly he recalled the incident with Mr. Basset.

Tom was carrying the Communion plate for Father Boniface, when he suddenly noticed Mr. Basset, kneeling at the rail in front of him! He had not known that Mr. Basset was a Catholic! Recalling what he had recently said to the man, Tom was disturbed. But he didn't have much time to think about it. The Communion was soon over, and he was again intent on the solemn ceremonies of the Midnight Sacrifice.

Mass finished, Tom hurried to hang up his cassock and surplice, and exchanged greetings with the other altar boys in low tones in the sacristy. Joe Kriss, who lived near Tom, was going to ride home with him in the Larkin car, for Joe's family hadn't come to Midnight Mass.

"Come on, Tom. We don't want to hold up your father," said Joe.

In a few minutes they were dashing down the sacristy stairs and out into the cold night. It was snowing, and a perfect Christmas Eve. The Church had been warm, but now the cold air bit sharply at the boys.

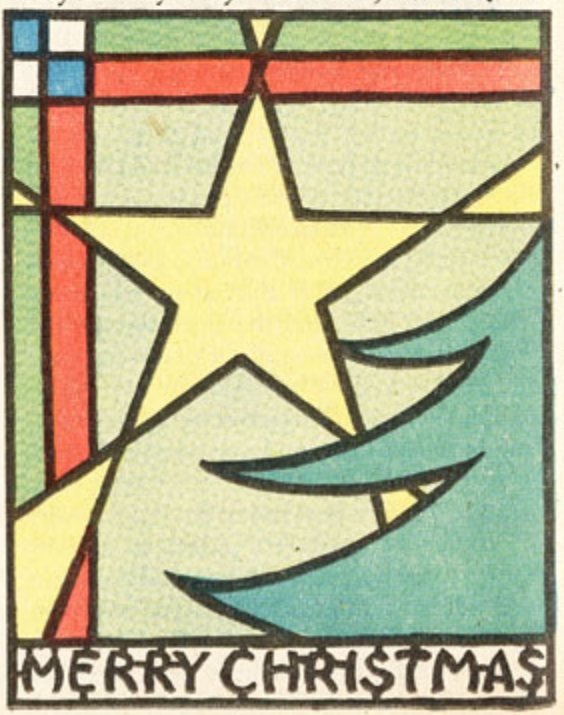
Out of the snow, a figure came up to Tom and touched his shoulder. Tom turned and looked up. It was Mr. Basset!

"Hello, Mr. Basset. Merry Christmas!" said Tom. Joe went on ahead.

"Merry Christmas, Tom," replied the storekeeper, "I just want to thank you for a really Merry Christmas."

Tom looked at the man and said apologetically, "I didn't know you were a Catholic, sir. I hope you didn't mind . . ."

"I was baptized a Catholic, Tom, but somewhere along the way I fell away from the Sacraments, and finally away from Mass. And I've stayed away for years. I really didn't realize



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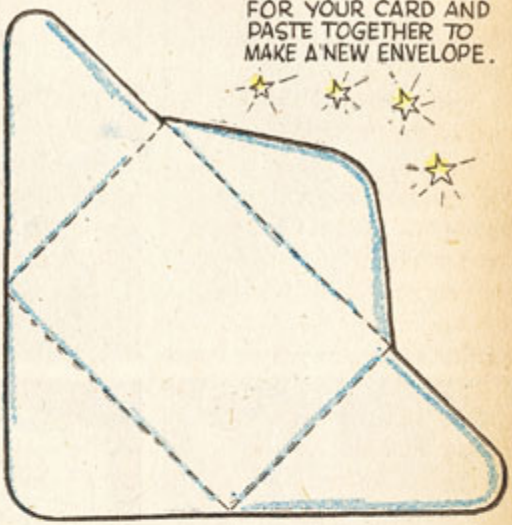
F. FIND A USED ENVELOPE THE SIZE AND SHAPE OF YOUR FINISHED CARD. OPEN IT CAREFULLY, LAY IT FLAT, AND USE IT AS A PATTERN. BE SURE THAT THE ENVELOPE IS A LITTLE LARGER THAN THE CARD, SO THE CARD WILL SLIDE IN AND OUT EASILY. THEN CUT THE ENVELOPE OUT OF THE SAME PAPER YOU USED FOR YOUR CARD AND PASTE TOGETHER TO MAKE A NEW ENVELOPE.



just how much I was missing—at Christmas and other times—until we had our little talk the other day. You made me understand that I've been putting emphasis on the wrong things."

"Er, er, that's all right Mr. Basset," started Tom, embarrassed, but the man continued before Tom could.

"So I went to Confession and Holy Communion today, Tom, and sat at Midnight Mass just as I used to when I was a boy. It's as you said. There is so much more to Christmas than just the trimmings on the tree. I hope you'll pardon me for holding you up—but thank you and bless you, Tom, for a Merry Christmas!"

"Merry Christmas to you, Mr. Basset," answered Tom, as his friend disappeared into a whirl of snowflakes.

"Who was that man?" asked Mr. Larkin as Tom jumped into the car in the Church driveway.

"Oh, that was Mr. Basset," answered Tom.

"I didn't know he was a Catholic," said his father as the car picked up speed and started down the street.

"Oh, yes, he went to Holy Comunion tonight," answered Tom.

The snow was gathering on the windshield, and the wind whistled through the trees, as the car ploughed through the storm.

But Tom did not mind the cold or the storm. He felt warm all over, and within him, was a feeling of happiness that he couldn't quite explain. Maybe it was because it was such a Merry Christmas—for everybody.

SOLUTIONS TO THE PUZZLES THAT APPEARED IN THE LAST ISSUE OF TREASURE CHEST.

ANAGRAMS

1. ADMIRE
2. SACRED
3. TREASON
4. KNIGHT
5. CANOEIST

MATCH PROBLEM

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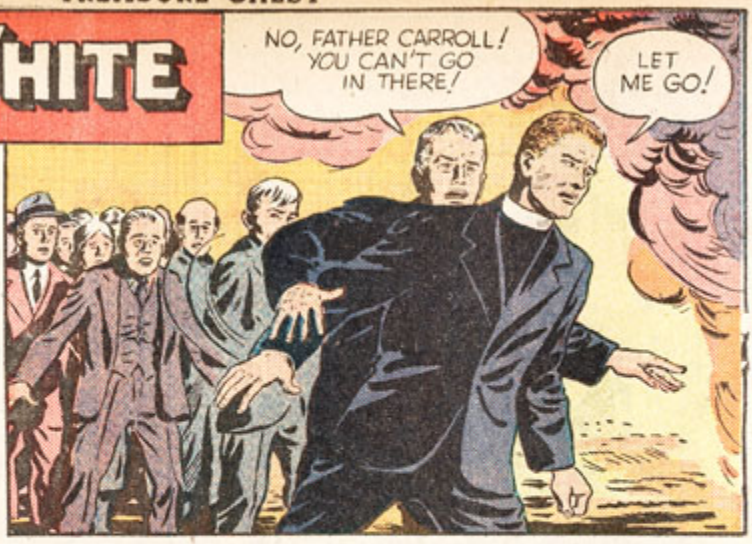
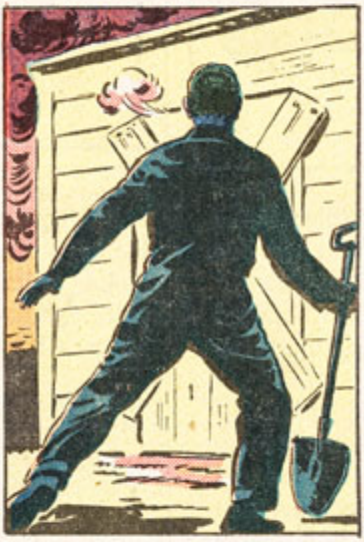
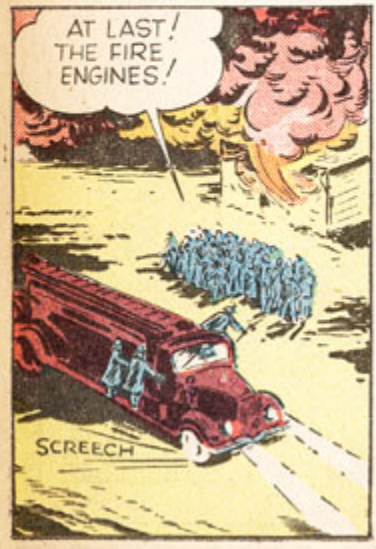
CHUCK WHITE

SHUNNED BY HIS SCHOOLMATES SINCE THE BELMONT GAME, CHUCK WENT, ALONE, TO THE THANKSGIVING COUNTY FAIR. A FIRE STARTED IN THE MAZE, ENTRAPPING LITTLE MIKE KELLY. CHUCK DASHED IN TO HIS RESCUE.







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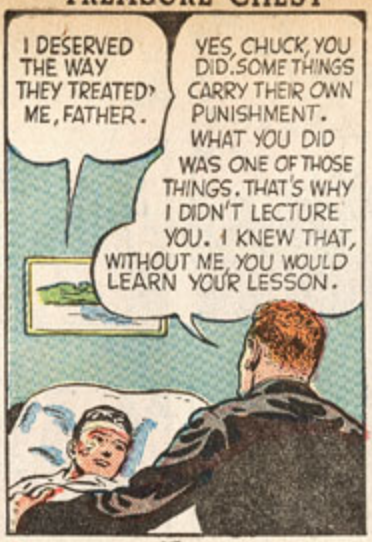

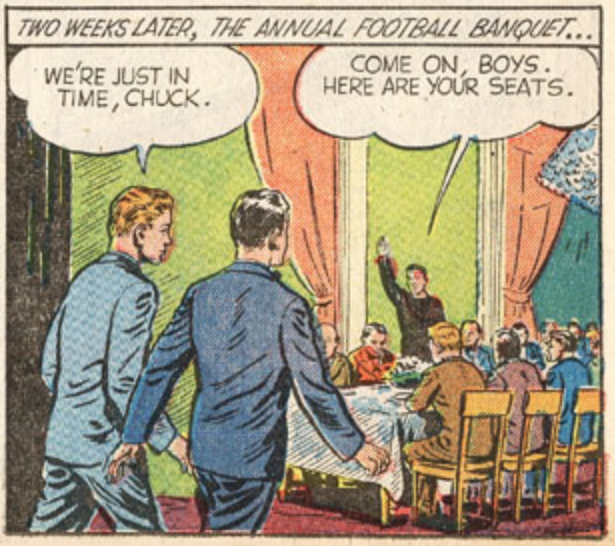

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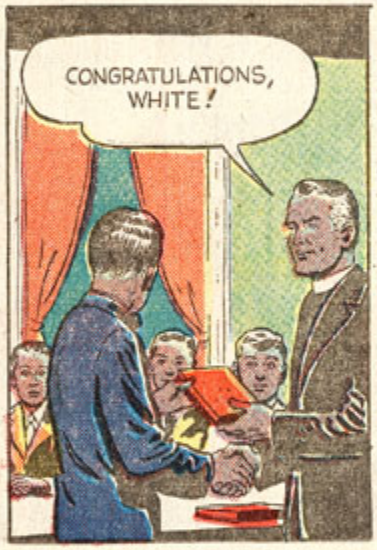

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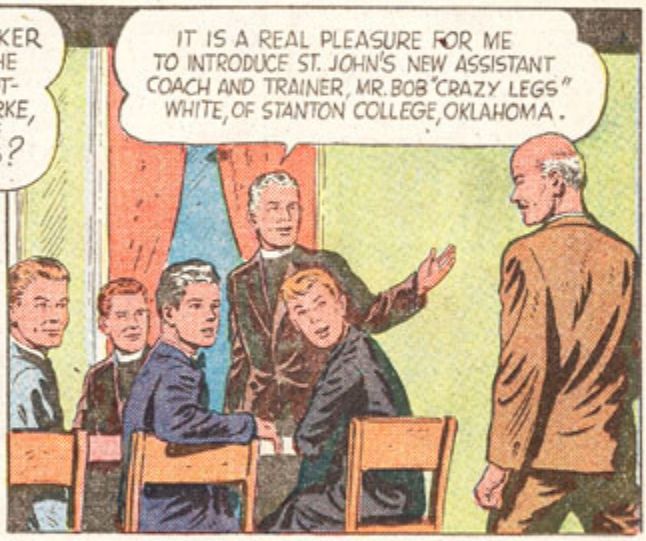

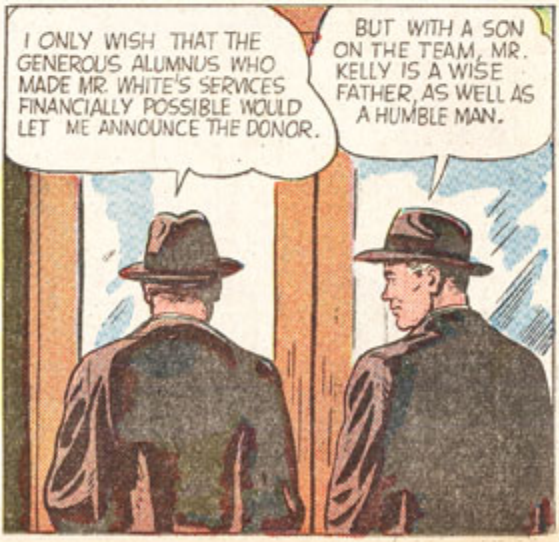

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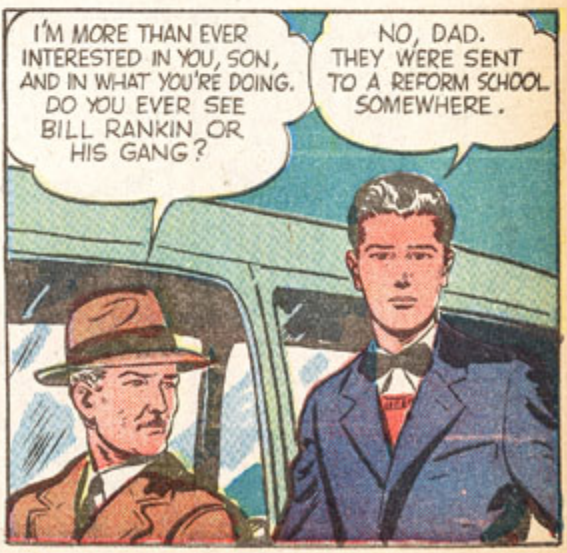

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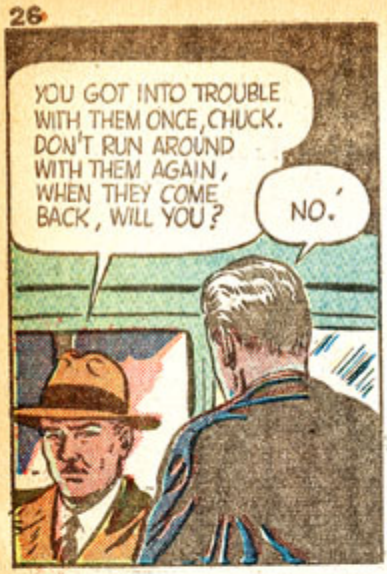

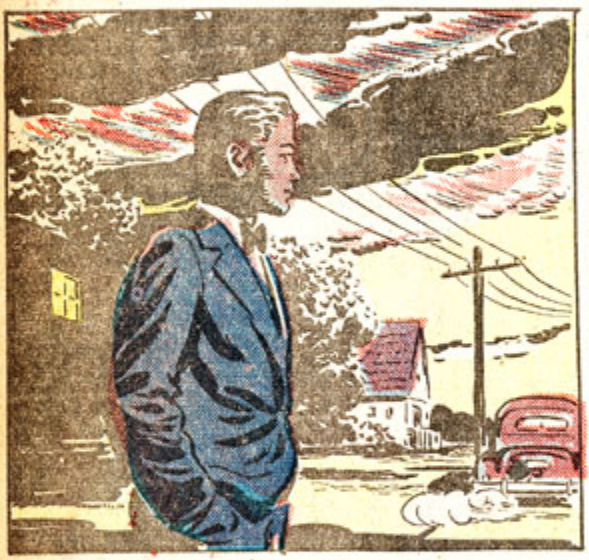

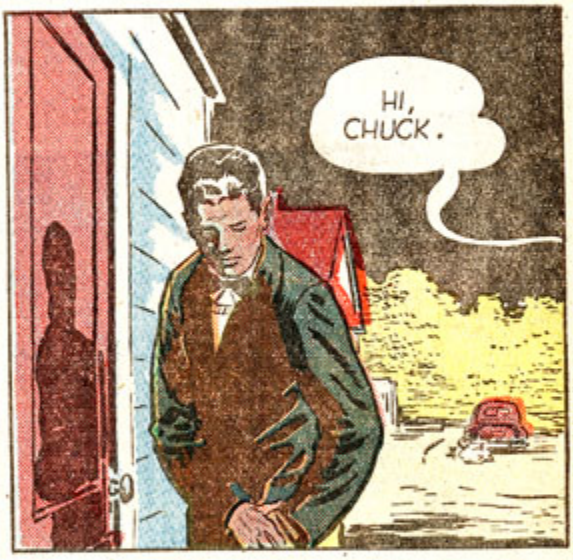

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CHRISTMAS BEAN BAG

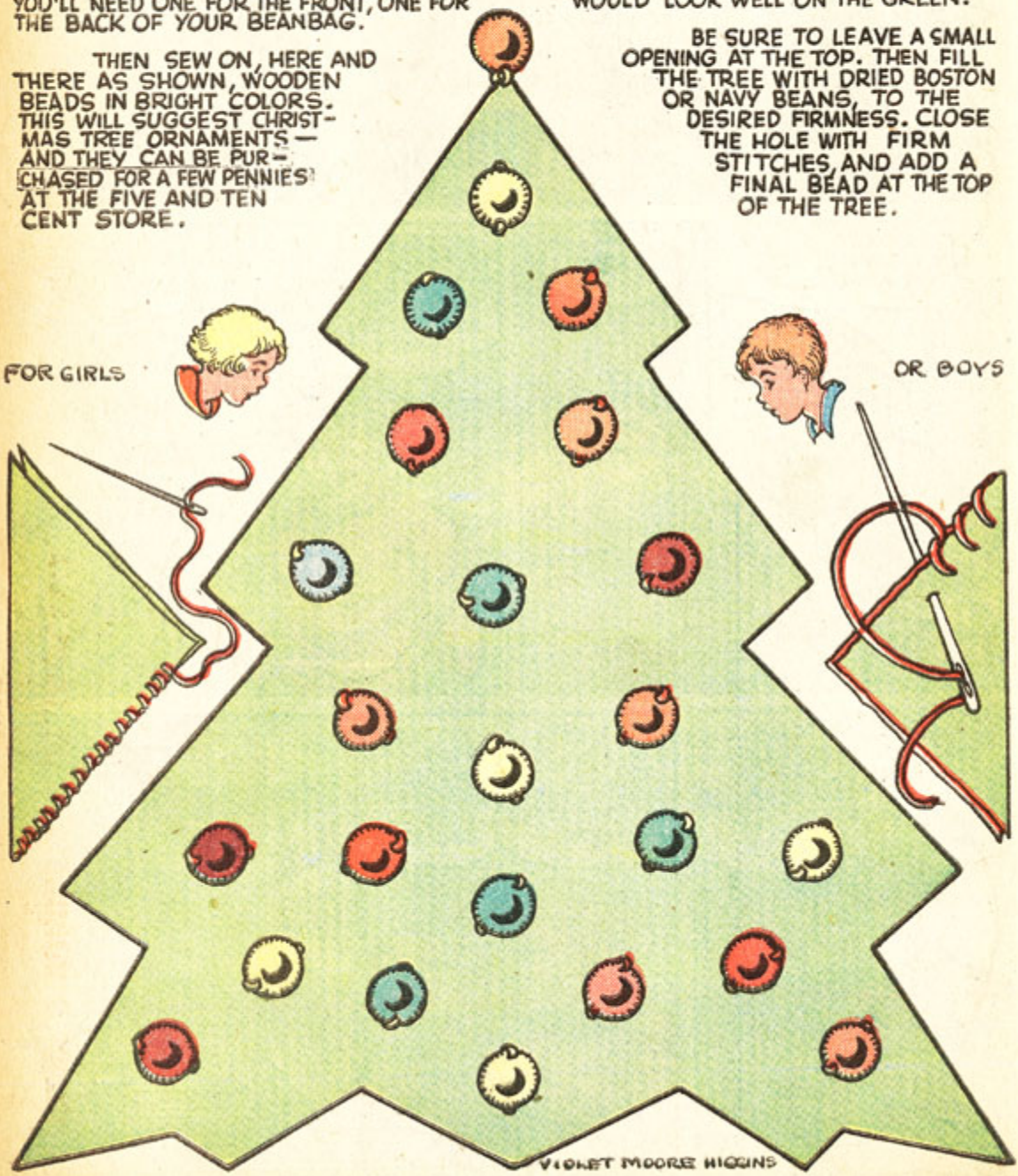
HERE IS A CHRISTMAS TREE BEANBAG WHICH YOU CAN MAKE FOR BROTHER OR SISTER BY FOLLOWING THESE DIRECTIONS:

CUT TWO TREES OUT OF BRIGHT GREEN OILCLOTH OR STRONG, GREEN COTTON MATERIAL. YOU'LL NEED ONE FOR THE FRONT, ONE FOR THE BACK OF YOUR BEANBAG.

THEN SEW ON, HERE AND THERE AS SHOWN, WOODEN BEADS IN BRIGHT COLORS. THIS WILL SUGGEST CHRISTMAS TREE ORNAMENTS — AND THEY CAN BE PURCHASED FOR A FEW PENNIES AT THE FIVE AND TEN CENT STORE.

NOW SEW THE TWO PARTS TOGETHER, BACK TO BACK, USING THE BUTTONHOLE STITCH AS SHOWN AT THE RIGHT, BELOW. IF BUTTONHOLING IS TOO DIFFICULT, SEW OVER AND OVER, FIRMLY, AS SHOWN AT THE LEFT, BELOW. STRONG RED THREAD WOULD LOOK WELL ON THE GREEN.

BE SURE TO LEAVE A SMALL OPENING AT THE TOP. THEN FILL THE TREE WITH DRIED BOSTON OR NAVY BEANS, TO THE DESIRED FIRMNESS. CLOSE THE HOLE WITH FIRM STITCHES, AND ADD A FINAL BEAD AT THE TOP OF THE TREE.



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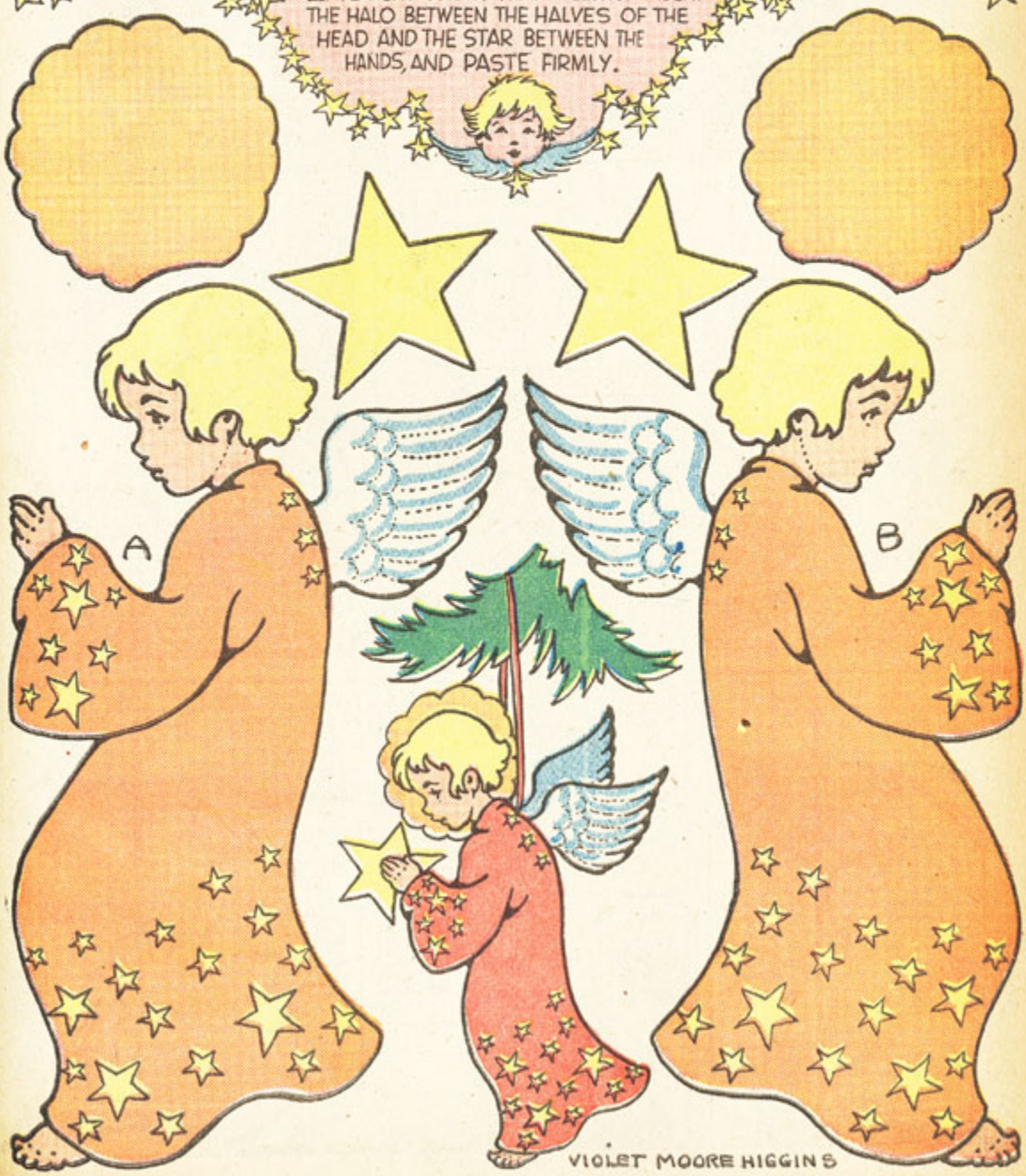
A CHRISTMAS ANGEL

YOU CAN MAKE LITTLE ANGELS FOR YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE THAT LOOK LIKE THESE. FOLLOW THESE DIRECTIONS: FROM GOLD OR BRIGHT YELLOW PAPER, CUT THE STARS, HALOES AND WINGS. PASTE THESE MATCHING PIECES TOGETHER SO THAT THEY WILL BE GOOD ON EITHER SIDE. CUT THE FIGURE OF THE ANGEL OUT OF BRIGHTLY COLORED PAPER. BEFORE PASTING BOTH SIDES TOGETHER, INSERT A LONG LOOP OF NARROW, RED RIBBON AT THE BACK OF THE ANGEL'S SHOULDER, JUST ABOVE THE THREE SMALL STARS.

WHEN PASTING ANGEL SIDES TOGETHER, LEAVE HEAD AND HANDS FREE. NOW INSERT THE HALO BETWEEN THE HALVES OF THE HEAD AND THE STAR BETWEEN THE HANDS, AND PASTE FIRMLY.



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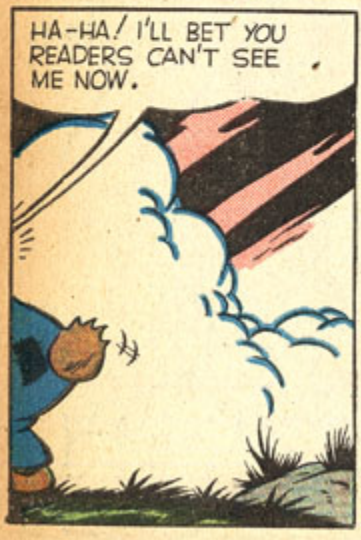
PERKY AND BOOBY



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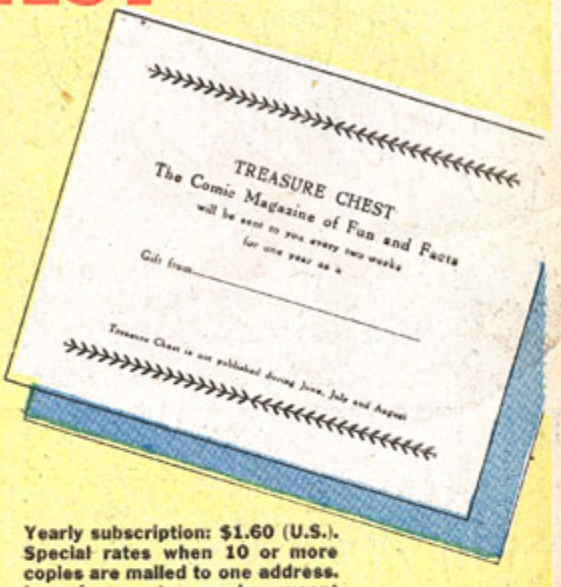

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